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In the application of)
Yuriy Reznikov,) Group Art Unit 2871
John West, and)
Oleg Yaroshchuk) T. Ton, Examiner
Serial No.: 09/656,742)
Filed: September 7, 2000)
For: METHOD FOR ALIGNMENT)
OF LIQUID CRYSTALS USING)
IRRADIATED LIQUID)
CRYSTAL FILMS)

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I hereby certify that this correspondence was deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Box Non-Fee Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231 on this 15 day of May, 2002.


Cynthia M. Wilson, Secretary to John J. Cunniff

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RESPONSE

Box Non-Fee Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In response to the Official Action mailed on April 16, 2002, the Applicants, through their attorney, reply as follows.

In the outstanding Office Action, a restriction requirement was issued. Claims 24 and 27 were classified in Group I, while claims 1-20, 21-23, and 25-26 constituted Group II. The Examiner stated that in the previous Office Action, claim 19 was inadvertently listed under Group I and claim 24 under Group II.

The Applicants hereby elect the claims of Group II with traverse. The Applicants assert that restriction is improper in the present case, in part, because claim 27, which claims a liquid crystal cell made according to the method of claim 11, should properly be considered a linking claim which links the process of claim 11 to the product made of claim 24. Also, as previously stated in the response filed January 3, 2002, the Examiner maintains that the product claimed can be made by

another and materially different process other than the claimed process, but provides no example of such a process.

Therefore, the Applicants maintain that restriction is improper in the present case and respectfully request reconsideration of this requirement.

In light of the foregoing arguments, the Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the present application and withdrawal of the restriction requirement under 35 U.S.C. § 121. Should the Examiner care to discuss any of the foregoing in greater detail, the undersigned attorney would welcome a telephone call.

No fees are believed to be due at this time. Nonetheless, in the event that a fee required for the filing of this document is insufficient, the undersigned attorney hereby authorizes the Commissioner to charge payment of any fees associated with this communication, or to credit any overpayment to deposit account number 18-0987.

Respectfully submitted,



Ray L. Weber, Reg. No. 26,519

John J. Cunniff, Reg. No. 42,451

Renner, Kenner, Greive, Bobak, Taylor & Weber
Fourth Floor

First National Tower

Akron, Ohio 44308-1456

Telephone: (330) 376-1242

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